3: Pijoan D-5 (ca. 1945) 1946
SA15 Mosquito SA15

The ideal procedure would have been to have had a team composed of various specialists, medical, sociological and anthropological, working together in a cooperative way in a thorough study of the Miskito Indians.

It must be acknowledge that we were fortunate enough to find one physician who had established himself over a period of years in the area in question. This fact made the work much easier and obviated the use of time to form contacts with Indians. This made it possible to have the work continued with a reasonable assurance of success.

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HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The eastern coast of Honduras and Nicaragua was discovered by Columbus in 1502, during his fourth and last voyage to the New World, when he was proceeding from Trujillo in Honduras to Nombre de Dios in Panama. However, he did not come in direct contact with the Indians of this area.[1] In the course of the following years the Spaniards endeavoured to take possession of this territory but the natives resisted most of the efforts of the colonizers. The Spaniards were chiefly in quest of loot but since gold was not found and the Indians gave them no end to trouble they centered their interests and energies upon the Pacific Coast.

Vague mention was made of the Atlantic seaboard Indians by Gon-

[1] Conzemius, E. Ethnographical Survey of the Miskito and Sumu Indians of Honduras and Nicaragua. Smithsonian Institution, Bull. 106, 1932.